

Proposed Issuance of a Virginia Water Protection Permit and Notice of Public Hearing in Wise County, Virginia

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment and to announce a Public Hearing on a draft Virginia Water Protection permit for Dominion Virginia Power in Wise County. The project is known as the Virginia City Hybrid Energy Center Project Solid Waste Management Facility. The permit will allow the applicant to place fill material within wetlands and stream channel in an unnamed tributary to Meade Creek known as Curley Hollow. The placement of fill is necessary in order to construct a solid waste landfill to serve a proposed electric generating facility.

PURPOSE OF HEARING: To obtain input from the public related to this project for DEQ to consider.

PERMIT NAME: Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board

APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: Dominion Virginia Power; 5000 Dominion Boulevard; Glen Allen, VA 23060; Individual VWP Permit Number 07-2334.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Dominion Virginia Power has applied for a new permit for the Virginia City Hybrid Energy Center Project Solid Waste Management Facility near St. Paul in Wise County, Virginia. The construction of the facility will require impacts to approximately 0.42 acres of emergent wetland and will require the placement of fill material upon approximately 3880 linear feet of stream channel in an unnamed tributary to Meade Creek.

A proposed permit has been drafted in accordance with the law and regulations and includes operating requirements to protect wetlands and water quality during construction. The permit also requires on-site compensation for the impacts to wetlands and stream channels within the same river basin. Compensation for the wetland impacts associated with this proposed permit will occur by enhancing and preserving in perpetuity at least two acres of wetlands along Meade Creek. Compensation for the stream channel impacts associated with this proposed permit will be provided by restoration and preservation of approximately 1,580 linear feet of Meade Creek using a design that mimics natural stream channel pattern and profile. Compensation for the stream impacts will also require permanent preservation of the entire drainage area along 6,100 feet of intermittent stream channel in the adjacent Maize Hollow.

The complete permit application for the permit may be viewed at: www.vchecjpa.info/ .

The proposed draft permit and supporting documentation may be viewed at:

www.deq.virginia.gov/wetlands/publicnotices.html . The documents may also be viewed at the Department of Environmental Quality; Southwest Regional Office; 355 Deadmore Street; Abingdon, VA. DEQ's preliminary decision is to recommend that the State Water Control Board approve the permit.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: DEQ will accept written comments relative to this permit action until 5:00pm on Friday June 13, 2008. DEQ will also accept written and oral comments at the scheduled public hearing which are germane to the water quality aspects of the proposed permit action.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail during the comment period. Written comments relative to the proposed permit action may also be submitted at the public hearing. All written comments must include: 1) the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the person commenting and of all people represented by the citizen; 2) a concise explanation of the water quality issues of concern, and;

3) A brief, informal statement regarding the extent of the interest of the person commenting, including how the operation of the facility or activity affects the citizen.

DEQ will also accept oral comments at the public hearings. To make a statement at a public hearing, write your name on a sign-up sheet available before the hearing. You may sign up only for yourself. The time allowed for each statement is set by the hearing officer.

TIME AND DATE OF THE HEARING: A public hearing will be held on Thursday, May 29, 2008. Registration for those persons wishing to speak at the hearing will begin at 4:00pm. An informational briefing will be held at 5:00pm, and the public hearing will follow immediately after the briefing.

HEARING LOCATION: St. Paul High School Auditorium; 3207 Fourth Avenue; St. Paul, VA 24287

DEQ CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Mark Trent; Department of Environmental Quality; Southwest Regional Office; P.O. Box 1688; Abingdon, VA 24212 Phone: 276 676-4800, Fax: 276 676-4899; e-mail: mstrent@deq.virginia.gov .